



Department of Public Health & Human Services, Helena

Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2008

Call to order

Dennis Maier, MD called to order the regular meeting of the **State Trauma Care Committee** at **1130 on August 11, 2008** in **Helena, MT**.

Attendance

Roll call was conducted and the following persons were present:

- Present:** Carol Kussman (CRTAC), and Pauline Linnell (MEMSA), Dr. Dennis Maier (ACS), Elaine Schuchard (ENA), and Kristin Lowery (MT Trauma Coordinators).
- Absent:** Drs. Charles Swannack (MMA), Brad Pickhardt and Linda Sund (WRTAC), Mike McGree (Private Ambulance Operators) and Tim Sinton (CRTAC) Joe Hansen (ERTAC).
- Guests:** John Bleicher, Kelsey Miller (WRTAC); Lyndy Gurchiek , Penny Clifton, Brad VonBergen (ERTAC), Dayle Perrin (Hospital Preparedness) and Jim DeTienne, Jennie Nemec, Kevin Kitzgerald, Gail Hatch and Bobbi Perkins (EMSTS).

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Handouts

- Agenda & meeting minutes
- STIPDA Draft Report, Recommendation Summary
- CAH PIN Trauma Study
- EMS Legislative Audit Status Report
- ERTAC minutes

Sub-Committee Reports

a) **Information Systems / Performance Improvement** (Chairperson Brad Pickhardt)

- Report given by Jennie Nemec. Trauma registry and performance improvement summary information provided to the general committee.
- 2008 Central Trauma Registry data report, January 1-June 30, 2008 (First 2 quarters) provided.
- The collaborative Performance Improvement project with the MHREF PIN will be initiated this fall with (4) identified indicators and a flow-sheet audit tool. This is a RETROSPECTIVE study X 12 months, with interventional action implemented beginning in January, 2009 for 6 months and then another retrospective study to determine effectiveness of the interventional actions. Four indicators have been identified in the following areas :
 - EMS/Prehospital
 - Hospital ED/Documentation
 - Hospital ED/ Interventional
 - System Process Development

b) **Public Advocacy / Legislation** (No current Chairperson)

Jim DeTienne reported that the Department of Public Health and Human Services is seeking budget approval for additional support for the poison control system and for development of a department injury prevention program. Additionally, approval and funding support is being requested for implementation of statewide hospital discharge data system. As part of audit recommendations, legislation has been drafted which clarifies the department's and Board of Medical Examiner's role in investigations and complaints and consolidation of definitions for medical direction.

Safety bills currently under consideration include; Primary Seatbelt/child protection as a single bill.

Proposed rules for implementation of Provider Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment have gone through public hearing. The POLST program will maintain the concept of Comfort One for emergency responders but it will define better DNR and palliative care wishes of the patient in all healthcare settings and for all healthcare providers.

c) **Education** (Previous Chairperson John Bleicher)

- This year's trauma system conference and the Rocky Mountain Rural Trauma Symposium (RMRTS) will be hosted by the Western RTAC and held in Missoula on September 10 - 12.
- TEAM courses have been provided through both ERTAC and WRTAC. CRTAC has current difficulties with obtaining physicians to act as faculty and is not actively conducting courses.
- 2009 Trauma Coordinator meetings are tentatively scheduled for February 10 in Helena and May 12. It was felt that pursuing a bi-state trauma coordinator meeting between Montana and Wyoming would be of value and if scheduled, would best be held in Wyoming or in Billings.
- ATLS; demand for ATLS is increasing and so are costs for providing courses. We have again scheduled an additional course for 2009 (in Missoula). The focus is to continue to de-centralize ATLS, providing more regional autonomy in courses with EMSTS support of logistic and administrative functions. MT COT will meet 9/12/08 during Rocky Mountain Rural Trauma Symposium to discuss strategies for course provision, increased student demand and budget concerns.
- ABLIS: two Advanced Burn Life Support Provider courses have been scheduled through support of the Hospital Preparedness Program. The courses are scheduled for November 4 in Great Falls and November 6 in Billings. Courses are appropriate for pre-hospital, hospital and medical providers.
- TNC: the committee proposes the development of a Trauma Coordinator Course to meet the need for providing new Trauma Coordinators an appropriate educational program. The course would utilize components from the Trauma Coordinator Course developed and presented by

d) **Organization / Emergency Preparedness** (Chairperson Tim Sinton)

Dayle Perrin provided an update

- The ADLS course was conducted at Fairmont Hot Springs on May 30 –31 with a Train-the-trainer session 6/1. 35 students attended and successfully completed the course. This core group of individuals will then be used to help teach other members in the three trauma regions.
- Legislation is being considered to support these teams with protections such as Workman's Compensation and liability during team activations for Disaster/Emergency Response.
- The next GRSA grant period is approaching. Information and applications will be sent out to hospitals in October. Grant support is proposed to be consistent with last year;
 - Funds available for facilities to pursue Designation or to continue development of Trauma programs if Designation has been recently obtained
 - Funds for local preparedness planning activities related to evacuation, fatality management, etc. for those facilities with mature trauma programs

e) **Prevention / EMSC Oversight** (No current Chairperson)

- Bobbi Perkins provided an update
 - Update on the MT Seatbelt Coalition grassroots effort for a primary seatbelt law that meeting monthly. A one page fact sheet is available at www.seatbeltmt.com. The MSBC sphere of influence worksheet was discussed.
 - For increased validity, effectiveness and to determine area of focus , Injury Prevention activity should encompass utilization of many sources of data, including;
 - Mortality Data: Vital Records, Medical Examiner, Fetal/Infant/Child Mortality review and Fatal Analysis Reporting System
 - Morbidity Data: Trauma Registry, Hospital Discharge, Behavioral Risk, Youth risk, Occupant Protection
- STIPDA/STAT Visit: the State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors Association provided an on-site technical assessment of DPHHS MT Injury Prevention Program. Four areas were assessed, with recommendations generated by the team, including;
- Infrastructure
 - Data collection, analysis and dissemination
 - Interventions: design, implementation and evaluation
 - Public Policy

A draft report has been received and was distributed for STCC review. We await the issuance of the final report. In the meantime, many of their recommendations are already being incorporated into the structure and processes of our Injury Prevention Program.

RTAC Reports

a) **Central RTAC** No report

b) **Eastern RTAC** update by Brad Vonbergen

The ERTAC was held on June 12, 2008 and was hosted by Billings Clinic. Nine facilities in the region were represented by 26 participants. ERTAC meeting minutes were reviewed. Four case studies were presented. Kim Todd provided the State report. STCC appointments and open positions were reviewed. STCC application process information was provided. ACS Verification/Trauma facility Designation activity was presented. Regional Trauma Plan development was discussed, including the issue of both Level II facilities being on “Divert”. Recommendations were to draft a dual-divert plan collaboratively for those times when both are on divert. Furthermore to define the type of diversion initiated at each facility and through consensus further define what it means/does not mean in order to meet specific patient needs. Three TEAM courses are currently scheduled (Roundup, Lewistown & Baker) and TNCC course is scheduled in Glendive. Kim Todd was presented a plaque from ERTAC for her years of hard work and dedication to trauma care in Montana. Many tissues were distributed.

- The next meeting will be September 18, 2008 hosted by Saint Vincent’s HealthCare.

c) **Western RTAC** update by John Bleicher

The WRTAC meeting was held on July 11, 2008 hosted by Community Medical Center. The ED/Nursing subcommittee met. 7 case reviews were presented for general discussion and education. One conclusion was to remind everyone that cases can be sent out for regional review when applicable and desirable for external review and recommendations.

St. James Healthcare successfully completed ACS Level II Verification/MT Area Trauma Hospital Designation June 10-11, 2009. RFS Brain Injury program was presented, encouraging referral for any head injury, including concussions.

- The next meeting will be October 17, 2008 and hosted by St Patrick Hospital.

Trauma System Update – Jennie Nemec

Kim Todd’s last day @ EMSTS 6/20/08: Trauma System Manager position is posted, interviews to be conducted within the week.

- STCC appointments reviewed
- STCC Position Openings;
ACEP
MMA
ERTAC (2)
IHS
Private Ambulance Services

- Designation activities;

ACS Trauma Center Verification/MT Trauma Facility Designation;
ACS Level III/MT Area Trauma Hospital;
St. James healthcare, Butte, June 10-11, 2008

ACS Trauma Verification/MT Trauma Facility Designation visits scheduled;
Bozeman Deaconess Hospital, September 16-17, 2008
Community Medical Center, Missoula, October 1-2, 2008

MT Trauma Facility Designation ;
Montana Trauma Receiving Facility:
Phillips County Hospital, Malta, 5/28/08
Trinity Hospital, Wolf Point 5/29/08

MT Re-Designation visits due and to be scheduled;

Wheatland Memorial Hospital, Harlowton

Pioneer Medical Center, Big Timber

Liberty County Hospital, Chester

MT Designation Applications received, site visits to be scheduled

MT Community Trauma Facility:

Clark Fork Valley Hospital, Plains

MT Trauma Receiving Facility;

Powell County Memorial Hospital, Deer Lodge

Marias Medical Center, Shelby

Madison Valley Hospital, Ennis

Pondera Medical Center, Conrad

Prairie Community Hospital, Terry

St. Joseph Hospital, Polson

4/19, Casper, WY (1 MT participant to attend)

- ATLS provider Courses scheduled;

10/10-11, Missoula

11/7-8, Billings

2009 ATLS schedule being finalized

Education;

MT Trauma System Conference, 9/10/08, Missoula

Rocky Mountain Rural trauma Symposium, Missoula

EMS Legislative Audit- Jim DeTienne

The LA EMS recommendations update document was presented and reviewed.

Each recommendation and status of the actions implemented by EMSTS and BOME were discussed. The next Interim Committee meeting is scheduled for August 22, 2009.

Potential proposed legislation pertinent to EMS includes provisions for tax credits, license plates, a grant program for equipment, vehicles and possibly training and the issue of one EMT on non-emergency transports.

Public Comment

None received.

Adjournment

Chairman Dennis Maier adjourned the meeting.

The **next State Trauma Care Committee** meeting will be held in Helena on **November 17, 2008.**

2009 STCC Meetings:

February 9

May 11

August 10

November 2

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Jennie Nemec, RN